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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: SCHERERZ *et al.*

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INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Sir:

Prior to examination upon the merits, the following preliminary amendment is submitted in connection with the above identified patent application. Any amendments to the specification and the claims are with respect to the translation of the specification and claims of international application no. PCT/EP2005/001067. The translation of the specification and claims is submitted herewith. It is respectfully requested that the present preliminary amendment to the specification and claims be entered and appropriately considered by the United States Patent Office.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including an abstract on a separate page is attached following page 7 of this paper.